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Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

1021 North Grand Avenue East, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

Mary A. Gade, Director

(217) 782-3397 (217) 782-9143 (TDD)

July 9, 1998

Mr. Michael A. Pierle Vice President, Environment, Safety & Health Solutia, Inc. 10300 Olive Boulevard Post Office Box 66760 St. Louis, MO 63166-6760

Re:

L1630200005 - St. Clair County

Sauget Area 1 Sites/Sauget & Cahokia

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SUPERFUND DIVISION OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Dear Mr. Pierle:

We are in receipt of your letter dated June 12, 1998. From this letter, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency ("Illinois EPA") understands that Solutia has declined further negotiations towards a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study ("RI/FS") consent decree at the Sauget Area I Sites. You had also reaffirmed Solutia's commitment towards conducting a "voluntary study and removal of risk/remediation at (Dead Creek Segment) Sector B".

Illinois EPA accepts Solutia's decision to decline further negotiations. The Illinois EPA and the Illinois Attorney General's Office have gone to great efforts to draft an RI/FS consent decree document for Solutia's review and comment. It is unfortunate and disappointing that very little effort was made on Solutia's behalf to respond to or negotiate this consent decree. Solutia has instead embarked on its own program of proposals and counterproposals to the State while vigorously fighting the U.S. EPA's efforts to list these sites on the National Priorities List.

U.S. EPA has given Illinois EPA a deadline of June 30, 1998 for the conclusion of negotiations with Solutia. These negotiations have been ongoing since October of 1996 and Illinois EPA will not request a deadline extension. As such, Illinois EPA will now refer the Sauget Area 1 Sites to U.S. EPA Region 5 for federal enforcement. Because of this referral, the Dead Creek Segment B proposal outlined in your letter and in Solutia's followup letter dated June 19, 1998 will not be considered by Illinois EPA. Our referral of this matter to the Illinois Attorney General's Office also remains in effect, however, and will now concentrate on the recovery of State costs expended at the Sauget Area 1 Sites.

Sincerely,

Mary A. Gade

Director

cc : James L. Morgan William E. Muno

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